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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/650,281	08/28/2003	Shinichi Kanai	09792909-5669	6692

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SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. BOX 061080
WACKER DRIVE STATION, SEARS TOWER
CHICAGO, IL 60606-1080

EXAMINER

ALMEIDA, DEVIN E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2432

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/16/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/650,281

Applicant(s)

KANAI ET AL.

Examiner

DEVIN ALMEIDA

Art Unit

2432

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/13/2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 14-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 14-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the papers filed 10/13/2008.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new mapping of rejection which clarifies the third processing apparatus in the Boltz reference.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-9 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boltz et al. (U.S. Patent # 6,081,731) in view of Corrigan et al (U.S. 6,640,097).

Boltz teaches everything with respect to claim 1, an information processing system comprising:

a first information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. element 20 Mobile Station);

a plurality of second information processing apparatus, each installed in one of a plurality of areas and configured for authenticating the first information processing apparatus located in one of the plurality of areas which correspond to the area of the authenticating second information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. a plurality of areas 12, each with a Mobile Switching Center (MSC) 14 and an integrated Visitor Location Register (VLR) 16 therein); and

a third information processing apparatus for providing content to said first information processing apparatus the third information processing apparatus located in an area distinct from

the plurality of areas (see column 2 line 63 – column 3 line 10 i.e. element 26 Home Location Register); wherein

the first information processing, the plurality of second information processing apparatuses, and the third information processing apparatus being interconnected via a network (cellular network);

the first information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. element 20 Mobile Station) sends authentication information for authenticating a user (see column 3 lines 30-53 i.e. registration message) and information about the location area of the first information processing apparatus to the third information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45 – column 3 line 29) via said network (see column 3 line 30-53);

said third information processing apparatus selects one of the plurality of second information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45 – column 3 line 29 i.e. element 12 MSC/VLR area) which is located in the same area as that of the first information processing apparatus and sends said authentication information obtained from said first information processing apparatus to said selected second information processing apparatus via said network, and based on a non-satisfactory determination resend the authentication information to the first information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45 – column 3 line 53 i.e. The VLR 16 is a database containing information about all of the mobile stations 20 currently located within the MSC/VLR area 12. If a mobile station 20 roams into a new MSC/VLR area 12, the VLR 16 connected to that MSC 14 will request data about that mobile station 20 from the HLR database 26 (simultaneously informing the HLR 26 about the current location of the mobile station 20).

Accordingly, if the user of the mobile station 20 then wants to make a call, the local VLR 16 will have the requisite identification information without having to reinterrogate the HLR 26);

and said second information processing apparatus authenticates said first information processing apparatus on the basis of said authentication information received from said third information processing apparatus and sends authentication result information for said first information processing apparatus to said third information processing apparatus via said network (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15 i.e. The mobile station 20, upon powering up, initiates a registration message to the appropriate MSC/VLR (shown as an integrated device 17 in FIG. 2) in the MSC/VLR area 12 and registers the requisite information therein).

Boltz does not teach the third information processing apparatus sends the authentication screen information to the first information processing apparatus, determines whether the authentication information received from the first information processing apparatus satisfies a predetermined input format. Corrigan teach the third information processing apparatus sends the authentication screen information to the first information processing apparatus, determines whether the authentication information received from the first information processing apparatus satisfies a predetermined input format (see figure 3 and column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains to have provided the mobile users with a login screen as away to authenticate the user of the phone (see column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). Therefore one would have been motivated to have provided the mobile users with a login screen.

With respect to claim 2, if said third information processing apparatus determines that the authentication for said first information processing apparatus is permitted by said second

information processing apparatus on the basis of said authentication result information supplied from said second information processing apparatus, said third information processing apparatus receives user information for said first information processing apparatus from said second information processing apparatus via said network (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15).

With respect to claim 3, said third information processing apparatus transfers each piece of information with said second information processing apparatus in each area by use of a common library (see column 2 line 63 – column 3 line 29 i.e. element 26 Home Location register).

With respect to claim 4, said second information processing apparatus transfers each piece of information with said third information processing apparatus by use of a common interface in each area (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15).

With respect to claims 5 and 9, an information processing apparatus comprising: acquiring means for acquiring authentication information for authenticating a user of first another (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. element 20 Mobile Station) information processing apparatus and area information from said first another information processing apparatus (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15); selecting means for selecting one of a plurality of second another (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. a plurality of areas 12, each with a Mobile Switching Center (MSC)) information processing apparatuses corresponding to said area information acquired by said acquiring means the plurality of second another information processing apparatuses are each installed in one of a plurality of areas the selected another processing apparatus located in the same area as that of the first another information processing apparatus (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15); sending means for sending, via

said network, the authentication information of said first another information processing apparatus acquired by said acquiring means to said second another information processing apparatus selected by said selecting means in the case of a satisfactory determination and for resending in the case of a non-satisfactory determination the authentication screen information to the first another information processing apparatus (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15); and receiving means for receiving, via said network, authentication result information for said first another information processing apparatus from said second another information processing apparatus (see column 2 line 45 – column 5 line 15) wherein the information processing apparatus is located in an another area distinct from that of the first another information processing apparatus and the selected second another information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45 – column 3 line 29).

Boltz does not teach a determination unit for determining whether the authentication information entered based on the authentication screen information and received from the first information processing apparatus satisfies a predetermined input format and sending the authentication screen information to the first another information processing apparatus. Corrigan teaches a determination unit for determining whether the authentication information entered based on the authentication screen information and received from the first information processing apparatus satisfies a predetermined input format and sending the authentication screen information to the first another information processing apparatus (see figure 3 and column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains to have provided the mobile users with a login screen as away to authenticate the user of the phone (see

column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). Therefore one would have been motivated to have provided the mobile users with a login screen.

With respect to claim 6, determining means for determining whether or not authentication for said first another information processing apparatus has been permitted by said second another information processing apparatus on the basis of said authentication result information received by said receiving means (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15); wherein, if said authentication for said first another information processing apparatus is determined by said determining means to be permitted by said second another information processing apparatus, said receiving means receives user information corresponding to said first another information processing apparatus from said second another information processing apparatus via said network (see column 2 line 45 – column 5 line 15).

With respect to claim 7, said area information is a language code and a country code (see column 2 line 45 – column 3 line 10).

With respect to claim 8, said sending means and said receiving means are each configured by a library common to said second another information processing apparatus in each area (see column 3 line 30 – column 5 line 15 i.e. element 26 HLR).

With respect to claim 19, an information processing apparatus comprising: receiving means for receiving, from first another information processing apparatus (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. element 20 Mobile Station), via a network (see column 2 lines 45-62 i.e. element 10 cellular network), a memory area ID corresponding to said first another information processing apparatus (see column 2 line 45 – column 3 line 10) in one of a plurality of second another information processing apparatuses and authentication permission information indicative of

being authenticated by one of a plurality of second another information processing apparatus the plurality of second another information processing apparatuses are each installed in one of a plurality of areas (see column 2 line 45 – column 5 line 15); acquiring means for acquiring, on the basis of said memory area ID and said authentication permission information received by said receiving means, a content ID stored (see column 2 line 63 – column 3 line 29 i.e. element 26 Home Location register) in a memory area corresponding to said memory area ID and content information corresponding to said content ID from said second another information processing apparatus via said network (see column 2 line 45 – column 5 line 15); and sending means for sending said content information acquired by said acquiring means to said first another information processing apparatus (see column 2 line 45 – column 5 line 15) wherein, the information processing apparatus is located in an another area distinct from that of the first another information processing apparatus and the selected second another information processing apparatus (see column 2 line 63 – column 3 line 29).

Boltz does not teach in the case of a satisfactory authentication permission information of the content ID entered in a predetermined input format based on an authentication screen information received by the first another information processing apparatus and resending the authentication screen information to the first information processing apparatus in the case of a non-satisfactory authentication permission information. Corrigan teaches in the case of a satisfactory authentication permission information of the content ID entered in a predetermined input format based on an authentication screen information received by the first another information processing apparatus and resending the authentication screen information to the first information processing apparatus in the case of a non-satisfactory authentication permission

information (see figure 3 and column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains to have provided the mobile users with a login screen as away to authenticate the user of the phone (see column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). Therefore one would have been motivated to have provided the mobile users with a login screen.

With respect to claim 20, determining means for determining, when said receiving means has received an instruction for purchasing a sale service of said content ID from said first another information processing apparatus, whether or not said instruction for purchasing said sale service corresponding to said content ID has been received by said receiving means (see column 2 line 45 – column 5 line 15); wherein, if said instruction for purchasing said sale service corresponding to said content ID is found received by said determining means, said acquiring means acquires said content corresponding to said content ID from said second another information processing apparatus via said network (see column 2 line 45 – column 5 line 15).

Claims 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Higuchi et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication # 2003/0050050) in view of Corrigan et al (U.S. 6,640,097).

Higuchi teaches everything with respect to claims 14 and 18, an information processing apparatus comprising: memory area control means for controlling the creation of a memory area (see paragraph 0054-0059 i.e. memory card 58) corresponding to first another information processing apparatus (see paragraph 0053 i.e. cellular phone) connected to the information processing apparatus via a network, the memory area being accessed via a network (see

paragraph 0053 i.e. cellular phone network); storage means for receiving a content ID from said first another information processing apparatus via the network and storing said content ID into said memory area whose creation has been controlled by said memory area control means (see paragraph 0060-0064); issuing means for issuing a memory area ID of said memory area in which said content ID is stored and authentication permission information indicative of the authentication of said first another information processing apparatus (see paragraph 0060-0084); selecting means for selecting second another information processing apparatus (see paragraph 0053 i.e. delivery server and paragraph 0060-0064) corresponding to said first another information processing apparatus on the basis of area information of said first another information processing apparatus the selected another information processing apparatus located in the same area as that of the first another information processing apparatus (see paragraph 0085-0112); and sending means for sending, via said network, said memory area ID and said authentication permission information issued by said issuing means to said first another information processing apparatus along with URL information of said second another information processing apparatus selected by said selecting (see paragraph 0060-0064 and see paragraph 0085-0112) , wherein the second another information processing apparatus is interconnected to the information processing apparatus and the first another information processing apparatus via the network (see paragraph 0053 i.e. cellular phone network) and the information processing apparatus is located in an another area distinct from that of the first another information processing apparatus and the selected second another information processing apparatus (see paragraph 0060-0084).

Higuchi does not teach an authentication unit for authenticating the first another information processing apparatus based on the content ID entered in a predetermined input format based on received authentication screen information. In the case of satisfactory authentication permission information and for resending in the case of a non-satisfactory authentication permission information the authentication screen information to the first another information processing apparatus, wherein the second another information processing apparatus is interconnected to the information processing apparatus and the first another information processing apparatus via the network. Corrigan teaches an authentication unit for authenticating the first another information processing apparatus based on the content ID entered in a predetermined input format based on received authentication screen information. In the case of satisfactory authentication permission information and for resending in the case of a non-satisfactory authentication permission information the authentication screen information to the first another information processing apparatus, wherein the second another information processing apparatus is interconnected to the information processing apparatus and the first another information processing apparatus via the network (see figure 3 and column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains to have provided the mobile users with a login screen as away to authenticate the user of the phone (see column 3 line 65 – column 4 line 8). Therefore one would have been motivated to have provided the mobile users with a login screen.

With respect to claim 15, in response to a request for information of said memory area corresponding to said memory area ID received from said second another information processing

apparatus, said sending means sends said content ID from said memory area to said second another information processing apparatus via said network (see paragraph 0085-0112); in response to a request for content information corresponding to said content ID received from said second another information processing apparatus, said sending means sends said content information to said second another information processing apparatus via said network (see paragraph 0085-0112); and in response to said request for content corresponding to said content ID received from said second another information processing apparatus, said sending means sends said content to said second another information processing apparatus via said network (see paragraph 0085-0112).

With respect to claim 16, said sending means is configured by an interface common to said second another information processing apparatus in each (see figure 5 and paragraph 0085-0112).

With respect to claim 17, if said content ID received from said first another information processing apparatus has not been stored in said memory area by said storage means or if the deletion of said memory area corresponding to said memory ID has been requested by said second another information processing apparatus, said memory area control means controls the deletion of said memory area corresponding to said first another information processing apparatus (see paragraph 0078-0082).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Devin Almeida whose telephone number is 571-270-1018. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays from 7:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron, can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Devin Almeida/
Patent Examiner

/Gilberto Barron Jr/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2432